

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT Production of Chemical Fertilizers  
 at Alcid, Heinrichshall

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1. During the war experiments were begun to produce phosphate fertilizers from anatite or phosphate of lime, by fusion or sintering to reduce raw material imports. Soda, soda wastes from iron foundries, Glauber's salt, and sodium sulphate wastes from textile plants were used as fusion media. This work has continued in the Russian zone of Germany, under the direction of Professor fnu Vladimirov, SMA, Agricultural Division. The German scientists engaged in this project include Professor fnu Frank, DVK, Experimentation and Technology Section, Dr. fnu Hunfer, formerly of "asag-Chemie and Univaro, Dr. fnu Jürgensen, Dr. fnu Rathey, and Dr. fnu Scheel; Scheel left for western Germany in 1946. Experiments were carried out in Cranienburg, Coswig and Heinrichshall with little practical success.
2. More recently a larger experimental station was set up at Alcid, VPB, formerly Zschimmer und Schwarz, Heinrichshall. Actual production has been achieved at the Heinrichshall plant. The raw material is sintered in small sulphate furnaces. The present capacity of the plant is 5-7 tons of the crude product daily. It is hoped that this can be increased to 70 tons a day. The additional construction to ensure this production should be completed by 1 May 1949. At present the smelt being used consists of 25% Kaiseroda-sulphate ( $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ), 25% coal dust and 50% Kola-crude-anatite. The product is an incandescent phosphate averaging 20%  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$ . This is as high a refinement as is possible from the raw materials used. It is hoped that potassium sulphate ( $\text{K}_2\text{SO}_4$ ) can be obtained from the Soviet AGs and substituted for the expensive Kaiseroda-sulphate now being used. The use of potassium sulphate would have the advantage that the end-product would contain 6-8% potassium oxide which is also valuable as a fertilizer. The phosphate will be marketed as "Alcid-Phosphate".
3. In order to increase the production of these phosphate fertilizers, a further plant is to be constructed on the grounds of the former Rüdorsdorfer Zementfabrik, Rüdorsdorf, Berlin. The necessary rotary furnaces can be obtained from Frupp-Gruson, Magdeburg. It is anticipated that two furnaces, each with a capacity of 100 tons of crude product daily can be set up.

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